

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 01220 221651Z

15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05

SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 DOTE-00 /096 W

----- 017600

R 221220Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2473

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1220

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, AG

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT - ALGERIAN AUTOMOBILE FACTORY

REF: ALGIERS 1120

1. FRENCH FINANCIAL ATTACHE INFORMED EMBOFF THAT
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY HAD DECIDED THIS WEEK
TO MOVE AHEAD ON ORAN AUTOMOBILE FACTORY. COMPANIES
IS RUNNING ARE RENAULT, PEUGEOT, FIAT, GENERAL MOTORS
AND AN UNNAMED JAPANESE COMPANY.

2. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, JAPANESE OFFER IS NOT AS FAR
ALONG AS OTHERS AND THERE IS QUESTION OF FIAT'S REAL
INTEREST. VOLVO SEEMS TO HAVE DROPPED OUT.

3. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, PARA 6, FRENCH HAD THOUGHT
PROJECT WOULD BE DROPPED FOR ECONOMY REASONS. THERE
ARE RUMORS OF MAJOR CONFLICT WITH GOA OVER PROJECT,
BUT INDUSTRIAL TECHNOCRATS WON OUT. COSTS FOR PROJECT
ARE ESTIMATED AT ABOUT ONE BILLION BY GM AND 3-4 BILLION
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PAGE 02 ALGIER 01220 221651Z

BY FRENCH, BUT LATTER FIGURE COVERS ALL COSTS OF

FINANCING PROJECT. EITHER FIGURE IS INDICATIVE OF SIZE OF PROJECT. FINANCING AND TRAINING OFFERED BY COMPETING FIRMS WILL PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN ALGERIAN CHOICE OF BUILDER.

4. WITH GM IN FINAL GROUP OF COMPETITORS, SUGGEST WASHINGTON INFORM GM OF GIST OF PARAS 1 AND 2. MAJOR PROJECTS DIVISION (DOC) SHOULD ASSIGN WASHINGTON BACK UP IN SUPPORT OF CONTRACT. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO ASSIST GM WHERE POSSIBLE.PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, AUTOMOBILES
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Disposition Authority: ElyME
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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